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December 1, 1994

Mr. William F. Caton, Acting Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. -- Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Ex Parte Meeting on CC Docket 94-1

Dear Mr. Caton;

BRIAN R. MOIR

Today, representatives of the International Communications Association (ICA), Page Montgomery (Montgomery Consulting) and myself, met with Richard Welch (Legal Advisor to Commissioner Chong). The discussion covered points already made on the record in ICA pleadings for this proceeding and in the following enclosures.

Sincerely,

Brian R. Moir Counsel for ICA

cc: Richard Welch
Page Montgomery

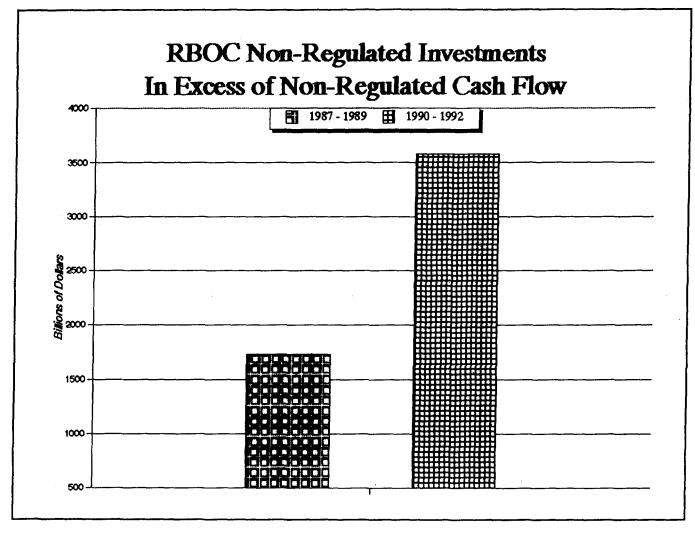
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## 1994 PRICE CAP REVIEW

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## EARNINGS, INVESTMENT, AND PRICE CAPSEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OF PERSONS AND PRICE CAPSEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

- The FCC intended price caps to be an improved form of <u>tariff</u> <u>review</u>, not an all-encompassing regulatory system
  - Price caps are supposed to better reflect competitive markets
  - But earnings, cash flow and financial results are used as critical measures of all <u>competitive</u> firms, on Wall Street and elsewhere
  - Price cap LECs want FCC to abandon these measurements despite their monopoly position
- LEC earnings remain at historically high levels despite LEC claims to contrary
- Overall net outflow from Bell regulated operations to non regulated operations has increased
  - 1987-89: \$1.733-billion
  - During incentive regulation period, 1990 to 1992: \$3.579billion
- Regulatory-approved increases in cash flow that are not reinvested in the telephone network are gone for good
- Most studies of incentive regulation have found that LECs do <u>not</u> increase overall levels of investment in the regulated network



- Spiller's study for Ameritech explicitly disclaims any application to the FCC price cap plan for LECs:
  - "identifying the impact of the FCC's price cap regime is almost impossible." Ameritech paper, p. 25.
- Spiller's paper never explicitly reveals which state plans were "pure" price caps allegedly having positive effects on investment
- Accuracy of Spiller's two stage least squares statistical analysis depends upon size of the data set being used
  - The Ameritech paper's data on fiber optic deployment spanned only five years
  - Its data on the other types of digital infrastructure covered only two years